

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

111 GRAND AVENUE
P.O. BOX 23660
OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660
PHONE (510) 286-5900
FAX (510) 286-5903
TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov



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Be energy efficient!*

May 16, 2012

Honorable Don Horsley
San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
400 County Center
Redwood City, CA 94063

Dear Supervisor Horsley:

Thank you for your letter requesting street lighting at the intersection of Route 1 and Virginia Avenue in the Moss Beach area in San Mateo County. In your letter, you have informed us that there have been accidents on Route 1 at the subject intersection.

In general, lighting on State highways is considered when warranted by factors such as minimum vehicular or pedestrian volume, accident history, presence of conflicting or weaving maneuvers or fixed objects, or other geometric constraints. In addition, depending on community needs and desires, local agencies and developers often propose and install continuous lighting along State highways to be owned, maintained, and operated by local agencies.

We have reviewed the available information, including the most recent accident that you mentioned in your letter, and found that safety lighting for this intersection was not warranted as outlined in Traffic Manual, Chapter 9 Section 9-08.2. Therefore, Caltrans will not be able to install safety lighting at this intersection.

Notwithstanding, in June 2011, we conducted and completed the warrants studies for traffic signalization and In-Roadway Pedestrian Warning Lights at this location. It was determined that the Traffic Signal Warrants were not met and there was not enough pedestrian usage to qualify for the In-Roadway Warning Lights. However, we initiated a project to replace the then existing pedestrian warning signs with the new fluorescent yellow-green background signs to increase reflectivity and visibility, near the south entrance to the town of Moss Beach and the north entrance to the town of Montara. In addition, a flashing yellow beacon was installed on top of these advance pedestrian warning signs to warn motorists of possible presence of pedestrians in the area. The installation of the flashing yellow beacon was completed in March, 2012. As an added emphasis, additional new pedestrian warning signs will be posted intermittently in both directions of Route 1 within the town limits of Moss Beach and Montara to alert motorists of pedestrians crossing in the area. Once the high reflectivity pedestrian warning signs are installed, motorists passing through these communities should be more aware of pedestrian

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activities in the area. We have also contacted the County of San Mateo, Department of Public Works, and are scheduling a meeting with them to investigate other alternatives and actions.

Thank you for your partnership and interest in safety and mobility on State highways. If you wish to discuss or need additional information, please contact me at 510-286-5900, or Mr. Sean Nozzari, Deputy District Director/Traffic Operations at 510-286-6345.

Sincerely,



BIJAN SARTIPI
District Director

c: San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
Senator Leland Yee, Senate District 8
Assembly Member Jerry Hill, 19th Assembly District
Captain Mike Maskarich, California Highway Patrol
Bill Kehoe, Midcoast Community Council
Jim Porter, Department of Public Works